

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00343 181023Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /031 W
-----091696 190036Z /75

R 180927Z FEB 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5694
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, IZ, CA, US.
SUBJECT: GM PARTICIPATION IN CAPITAL GOODS FAIR

REF: 77 BAGHDAD A-58

1. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR INFORMED USINT OFFICER THAT GM CANADA'S APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE MARCH 1-15 CAPITAL GOODS FAIR HAS BEEN REFUSED. APPARENTLY THE ISSUE WAS REFERRED TO THE IRAQI SUPREME TRADE COUNCIL, A MINISTERIAL LEVEL REGULATORY BODY FOR SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION OF TRADE MATTERS. THE COUNCIL TURNED DOWN GM CANADA BECAUSE OF ITS CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH GENERAL MOTORS OF THE UNITED STATES.

2. COMMENT. LAST YEAR GM CONTINENTAL OF ANTWERP WAS INVITED BUT DECLINED FOR LACK OF SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME. THIS YEAR, AS PART OF GM'S ATTEMPT TO USE THE "CANADIAN CONNECTION" TO ENTER THE IRAQI MARKET, IT DECIDED TO TRY TO EXHIBIT THROUGH ITS CANADIAN SUBSIDIARY. THE REFUSAL CALLS INTO QUESTION THE VIABILITY OF THIS

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PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00343 181023Z

STRATEGY. USINT BELIEVES THAT THE REFUSAL THIS YEAR MAY REFLECT THE FACT THAT THE ISSUE WAS REFERRED TO A POLICY LEVEL ORGAN AT A TIME WHEN THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT IS HOSTILE TO ALMOST ANYTHING AMERICAN. LAST YEAR THE INVITATION WAS ISSUED BY LOW LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO PROBABLY NEVER POSED THE POLICY QUESTION TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES.
PECK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c4f007d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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